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SCHOOL
AND
FINANCIAL REPORTS
OF THE
TOWN OF BENNINGTON,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING
MARCH 1, 1880.

ANTRIM, N. H. :
PRINTED BY F. A. THOMPSON.
1880.

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SCHOOL REPORT.

In compliance with the school laws of New Hampshire I submit to the voters of the town of Bennington the following report :

Standing upon the threshold of a new school year we may review the past and carefully consider the causes that have contributed to our prosperity in matters relating to our common schools.

First, we had an excellent corps of teachers—active, energetic teachers who instilled into the minds of their scholars the enthusiasm so necessary for a successful school. Second, the co-operation of the parents, by which the teachers were sustained and encouraged in their work. These and other causes have vastly improved our schools the past year, and placed them decidedly in advance of the “*district school as it was.*” Our schools will now compare favorably with any schools in the state of like grade ; and in order to have them maintain this position it needs the co-operation of parents and scholars. It is not always true that “*as the teacher is so is the school.*” The good influence of a teacher may be neutralized by the action of the parents. A fearful responsibility rests upon you parents if you suffer your children to play truant during the school term or absent themselves from it for days together.

The education of our children will always demand our serious attention. Great interests depend upon our devotion to this object.

To send out into the world, without an education, our children to act in the great drama of life, would be like sending the noble ship across the pathless ocean without chart or compass. Then let us redouble our efforts and watch with unceasing vigilance the great interests committed to our care.

We have introduced into the schools the past year Cline's Map of New Hampshire, which we consider highly necessary for all studying geography, and giving to all a better knowledge of the geography of the old Granite State. A want long felt to be necessary, as many of the scholars had a better geographical knowledge of Europe and Asia than of their own state.

Geography to be useful and practical should commence at the schoolroom, and like the wavelets on the lake enlarge its circles, taking in the town, the county and the state.

Below we give the Roll of Honor, or the names of the scholars not absent or tardy during the term.

	1st term.	2nd term.		1st term.	2nd term.
Ada M. Colby,	"	"	Guy Dickey,		"
Anna F. Colby,	"	"	Martha Stone,		"
Augusta F. Bullard,	"	"	Abbie Hood,		"
Fred H. Colby,		"	Hattie Kimball,		"
James R. Colby,	"	"	Eddie Hood,		"
Willie Colby,	"	"	Forest Wilson,		"
Lottie E. Balch.	"	"	Addie Taylor,	"	
Mabel Dickey,	"		Nora Dodge,	"	"
Lizzie Eaton,	"		Lila Flagg,	"	
Ellen Eaton,	"		Mary Woods,	"	
Effie Ross,	"		Mary Wilson,	"	
Bessie Sharpless,	"	"	Mary Rogers,	"	
Adams Burt,	"	"	Annie Wallace,	"	
John Eaton,	"		George Gray,	"	"
Alonzo George,	"		Willie Whitney,	"	"
Charles H. Gray,	"	"	Eddie Whitney,	"	"
George Knight,	"		Hillie Burt,	"	"
Scott Knight,	"		Alonzo George,		"
Fred Knight,	"		Fred Wilson,		"
Harry Ross,	"		Lulu Dodge,		"
			Grace Wilson,		"

DISTRICT NO. 1.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

Teacher, EMMA F. ROBERTSON. Prudential Committee, M. M. GEORGE.

When a district employs the same teacher for several years in in succession it is very strong presumptive evidence that the teacher's services are satisfactory. We have nothing new to add to our former notices of this teacher and of this school. Everything appeared satisfactory to your committee, and a good work was accomplished.

Second term by the same teacher. No one could visit the school without being pleased with its appearance. The thoroughness of instruction and good discipline manifested in the school-room commend this teacher as one of the first class. The term was pleasant and profitable, and the examination gave satisfaction to all who attended.

GRAMMAR DEPARTMENT.

EMMA J. NAHOR, teacher. Miss Nahor possesses emphatically the requisites for a successful teacher. Enthusiastic and self-reliant to a remarkable degree, she secured the love and good will of her scholars, and the utmost harmony prevailed during the term. Both teacher and scholars acted upon the principle that "*whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well.*"

Winter term. The winter term by the same teacher was again a decided success. Her indomitable perseverance and energy has made a term of school long to be remembered. As the school did not commence till late in the season it is now in session at this time of writing. From our visits to this school we unhesitatingly pronounce it a good one when we get the whole of it.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

LIZZIE S. ELLENWOOD, Teacher. WARREN GILLIS, Prudential Committee.

This was Miss Ellenwood's first term of teaching, and considering the inexperience of the teacher she did well. The school appeared well at the examination, showing conclusively that the teacher tried hard to do her duty. It is a matter of regret that the terms of school in this district are so short.

Winter term. This district was unfortunate in its winter term of school. The first teacher employed was Miss LONA CHANEY, who commenced the school under very favorable auspices. After keeping about three weeks she was taken sick, and the school passed under the management of her sister for two weeks, then Miss Mary S. Ellenwood was employed for the remainder of the term. The school money being expended before the Prudential Committee was aware, the school closed abruptly without an examination.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

MARY J. MANAHAN, Teacher. L. C. ROGERS, Prudential Committee.

This school district united with a contiguous district in Greenfield had but one term of eight weeks. The teacher employed was Miss Manahan, a teacher of some experience, who seemed to devote her whole time to the advancement of her scholars. The deportment of the scholars was highly satisfactory. Considering the shortness of the term good progress was made in the studies pursued.

AMOUNT OF SCHOOL MONEY IN EACH DISTRICT.

District No. 1,	\$361 26	District No. 3,	\$18 55
“ “ 2,	51 11		

In taking leave of the position I was called to fill by your suffrages I take this time to express my thanks for the hearty co-operation of the parents for the well being and interest of our schools: and to the teachers and scholars for the uniform

courtesy and respect I have received in all my visits to the schools.

Respectfully Submitted.

JOHN H. FLEMING,

Superintending School Committee.

Bennington, March 1st, 1880.

Tabular view of the Public Schools in the town of Bennington for 1879-80.

No. 3.	No. 2.	No. 1.	Number of Districts.
			TEACHERS.
			Terms.
		PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.	
		1 Emma F. Robertson,	
		2 " " "	
		(GRAMMAR DEPARTMENT.)	
		1 Emma J. Nahor,	
		2 " " "	
		1 Lizzie S. Ellenwood,	
		2 Loma Chaney,	
		1 Mary J. Manahan,	
			Weeks of School.
			Number of Scholars.
			Males.
			Females.
			Average Attendance.
			Tardiness.
			Dismissals.
			Not absent one half day.
			No. attend'g Reading and Spelling.
			Penmanship.
			Arithmetic.
			Book-Keeping.
			Grammar.
			Geography.
			Vocal Music.
			Other Studies.
			Wages of Teachers per month, including Board.
			Visits by S. S. Committee.
			Visits by Prudential Committee.
			Visits by Citizens and others.
			Average amount expended on each scholar per week.

TEXT BOOKS IN USE:—Bible, Franklin series of Readers, Progressive Speller, and Warren's word speller, Colburn's Mental and Greenleaf's series of Arithmetics, Cornell's and Harper's Geographies, Kerle's Grammar, Quackenbos' History of the United States, Mahew's Book-Keeping, Dunton & Scribner's system of Penmanship.

FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1880.

The Selectmen to the town,

DR.

To taxes uncollected on Colby's list,	\$ 992 93	
To amount on Henry J. Burt's list, 1879,	3276 28-	\$4269 21

CR.

By paying William Eaton from Colby's list of 1878,	\$735 14	
By paying William Eaton from Henry J. Burt's list of 1879,	* 2945 00	
Uncollected on Colby's list,	257 79	
“ “ Burt's list,	323 18	
Abatements on Burt's list,	8 10-	\$4269 21

William Eaton, Treasurer to the town,

DR.

To ballance of money from last year,	\$ 633 80	
Money received from Colby's list of 1878,	735 14	
“ received from Burt's list of 1879,	2945 00	
“ for use of Town Hall,	36 75	
Savings Bank tax,	255 97	
Railroad tax,	24 78	
Literary Fund,	31 82	
Bounty on foxes and hawks from the state,	3 00	
Interest on money loaned,	25	
For books sold Wallace,	35 00	
Money received from County,	202 50	
“ “ of G. Alfred Whittemore for old hearse,	5 00	
Money received of G. W. Burns for coffin for James Pond's child,	8 50-	\$4917 51

William Eaton,

CR.

By paying State tax,	\$436 00	
“ “ County tax,	432 07	
Non-Resident highway receipts,	73 20-	\$941 27

SCHOOL ORDERS.

District No. 1,	\$361 26	
Two maps of N. H.,	10 00	
District No. 2,	51 11	
One map of N. H.,	5 00	
District No. 3,	18 45-	\$445 82

SUPPORT OF PAUPERS.

Paid G. B. Page for boarding Mrs. Page.	\$66 00	
Mrs. W. B. Walker,	2 00	
Charles Malter, for taking care of Pauper,	44 00	
G. Andrew Whittemore, goods for Mrs. Walker,	5 44	
Dr. Christie, bill for doctoring pauper,	33 00	
Dr. Bradey, bill for the same,	25 00	
J. C. Dodge, boarding Mrs. Page,	6 00-	\$181 44

ROADS AND BRIDGES, (in addition to highway tax.)

Loren H. Flanders, labor,	\$ 75	
Wm. L. Taylor, snowing bridge and cutting drains,	3 80	
• Harvey P. Clark, labor on road,	67	
James E. Favor, repairing road,	79 75	
Wm. L. Taylor, “ “	34 58	
Alfred Rogers, labor on road,	6 68	
Abram S. Burt, “ “ “	1 25	
Horace Rogers, “ “ “	14 25	
L. C. Rogers and Elbridge Wilson, labor on road,	60	
Wm. G. Roach, cutting trees on highway,	30	
Henry Newton, work on road,	9 00	
F. C. Bullard “ “ “	15 00	
Alfred Gray, for labor,	7 70	
James E. Favor, repairing road,	2 00	

George E. Colby, repairing road,	\$12 75	
W. E. Downes, " "	2 66	
Levi Colby, " "	9 10	
G. L. Wilson, " "	2 40	
George A. Dickey, " "	1 05	
Town of Antrim, repairs on bridge,	21 42	
G. S. Holt, labor and iron on bridge,	7 00	
Ed E. Smith, to gravel and work,	1 75	
B. F. George, " " " "	6 50	
J. H. Fleming, building crossing,	10 00	
J. W. Flagg, labor on road,	2 50-	\$253 46

BREAKING ROADS.

Frank G. Smith,	\$ 1 75	
Horace Rogers,	13 50	
John D. Cooper,	4 50	
Wm. H. Darrah,	1 50	
Wm. L. Taylor,	40	
B. D. Felch,	8 95	
F. G. Smith,	2 00	
James Foote,	1 20	
John D. Butler,	12 70	
Horace Rogers,	12 75	
Moses H. Newton,	11 10	
B. F. Gould,	5 15	
Levi Colby,	3 90	
Wm. Gillis,	4 00	
James Quimby,	10 15	
John C. Dodge,	3 00	
Wm. H. Darrah,	3 55	
Charles Woodbridge,	4 05-	\$104 15

MONEY PAID TOWN OFFICERS.

Wesley Wilson, 1st Selectman,	50 01
George S. Holt, 2nd Selectman,	32 00
Charles E. Eaton, 3rd Selectman,	34 00
Wesley Wilson, overseer of poor,	9 32
M. M. George, town clerk,	12 00
William Eaton, treasurer,	15 00
John H. Fleming, S. S. Committee.	16 00
John W. Flagg, 1st Supervisor,	4 00

B. D. Felch, 2nd Supervisor,	\$4 00	
Frank B. Gould, 3rd Supervisor,	4 00	
John H. Fleming, auditor,	2 00	
Hartwell Lakin, auditor,	2 00-	\$184 33

MISCELLANEOUS TOWN EXPENSES.

George E. Colby, overtax in 1877,	\$ 6 25
Dinsmore Dodge, bounty on fox,	50
George Holt, bounty on foxes,	1 00
Lewis A. Knight, bounty on fox,	50
John F. Dodge, to paying for hearse,	200 00
George Thompson, sheep killed by dogs,	2 50
E. C. Eastman, for books and express,	4 00
S. H. Newton, two sheep killed by dogs,	4 00
Train, Hosford & Co., boards for hearse house,	1 50
F. A. Thompson, printing town reports,	15 10
Wm. L. Taylor, use of watering trough 1878,	3 00
Nahum Russell & Son, sheep killed by dogs,	16 00
A. B. Lawrence, for dramatic club,	25 00
J. L. Ross, bounty on two hawks,	40
G. S. Holt, moving tramp house,	9 90
G. A. Whittemore, hinges and screws,	1 10
Gust Walker, sewer cap and express,	3 25
Albert A. Barker, land damage,	75 00
B. F. Gould, taking care of fire engine,	25 00
J. E. King, bill of lumber,	17 66
Wm. L. Taylor, use of watering trough 1879,	3 00
Frank A. Taylor, tolling bell,	1 00
George L. Wilson, work on hearse house,	2 62
Morrill & Silsbee's bill and express,	1 25
C. E. Eaton, horse hire and nails, &c.,	3 16
J. W. Flagg, labor at cemetery,	2 25
Royal V. Knight, expence of town hall,	11 11
“ “ care of town hall,	12 00
G. S. Holt, horse hire	4 00
C. J. Kimball, for fire engine men,	72 75
Amos Whittemore, rent of engine house,	12 00
A. W. Gray, committee to purchase hearse,	5 00
John F. Dodge, two days to purchase hearse,	3 00
“ “ board for the same time,	2 55
“ “ stage and car fare,	8 00
Freight on hearse,	11 00

Wm. Eaton, lumber for reservoir,	5 38	
Wesley Wilson, labor on roads and bridges,	10 63-	\$582 36

NOTES AND INTEREST PAID.

Mary Christie's note,	\$557 38	
Samuel Abbott, on Mrs. Abbott's note,	25 00	
Mrs. C. S. A. Hodgkins,	50 00	
Sarah M. Taylor, note and interest,	436 92	
George Thompson, note and interest,	344 53	
David Rogers, three years interest on town note,	28 65	
Amos Whittemore, interest on the donation to the Congregational Society from John Dodge,	12 00	
Josie M. Taylor, note and interest,	171 03	
Emerson Favor, note and interest,	34 18-	\$1659 69

RECAPITULATION.

Money and receipts put into the treasurer's hands from March 1st, 1879 to March 1st, 1880,	4917 51-	\$4917 51
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Credit by paying the following sums :

State Tax,	\$ 436 00	
County tax,	432 07	
Non-resident highway receipts,	73 20	
School orders,	445 82	
Support of paupers,	181 44	
Roads and bridges in addition to highway tax,	253 46	
Breaking roads,	104 15	
Notes and interest paid,	1659 69	
Town officers,	184 33	
Miscellaneous town expences,	582 36	
School house tax,	123 00-	\$4475 50

Ballance in treasury of	\$442 01
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Abatement of taxes on Burtt's list.

Charles Favor, poll,	\$1 35
John Frasier, poll,	1 35
Fred Long, poll,	1 35

Chas. Maltese, poll,	\$1 35	
Wm. S. Johnson, poll,	1 35	
Chas. S. Wilson, poll,	1 35-	\$8 10

TOWN LIABILITIES.

John Dodge, Congregational Society note given Feb. 6th, 1876,	\$200 34	
David Rogers, March 1st, 1876,	159 00	
Alfred Rogers, March 1st, 1876,	631 23	
John W. Flagg, Jan. 2nd, 1877,	1683 79	
Isaac Proctor, Feb. 19th, 1877,	91 05	
Lydia Pollard, March 1st, 1877,	1356 02	
S. C. A. Hodgkins, March 1st, 1877,	210 89	
Dorcas P. Flagg, Feb. 10th, 1878,	1474 27	
Wesley Wilson, Feb. 22nd, 1878,	132 10	
Rachel Wilson, Feb. 23rd, 1878,	295 41	
J. W. Flagg, Feb. 27th, 1879,	262 12	
Samuel Abbott, Oct. 22nd, 1879,	70 28	
Mrs. J. A. Whittemore, Jan. 24th, 1880,	713 25	
Betsey Burt, March 1st, 1880,	318 44	
Wm. Eaton, March 1st, 1880,	874 71-	\$8472 90

Against the indebtedness we have the following assets :

Money in hands of the treasurer,	\$442 01	
Tax on Colby's list of 1878,	257 79	
“ “ Burt's list of 1879,	323 18	
Note from S. A. Walker to town,	42 64-	\$1065 62

We have examined the above report of the Selectmen and Treasurer, and find it accurately cast and properly vouched.

JOHN H. FLEMING, }
HARTWELL LAKIN. } Auditors.

SELECTMEN'S ACCOUNT WITH TOWN OF BEN-
NINGTON.

Town of Bennington to Wesley Wilson,

Dr.

1879.

March 17, To one day filling blanks for town,	\$1 50
“ 18, “ “ “ distributing blanks,	1 50

	"	19,	To one day making and distributing,	1 50	
	"	26,	" one half day writing names on book,	75	
April			" three days taking invoice,	4 50	
	"	11,	" one half day on Colby's tax list.	75	
	"	12,	" one day receiving inventory,	1 50	
	"		" $4\frac{3}{4}$ days " "	7 13	
	"		" $4\frac{1}{2}$ days making taxes,	6 75	
May		2,	" one half day making inventory,	75	
			" two days putting taxes on book,	3 00	
			" one half day writing town warrants,	75	
Dec.		6,	" one half day settling town accounts,	75	
	"	13,	" regulating jury box,	25	
1880.					
Jan.		24,	" one half day settling town accts.,	75	
Feb.		14,	" " " " " "	75	
			" two days on Gillis road,	3 00	
			" letter postage,	13	
	"	24,	" one day settling,	1 50	
			" twenty-five days board,	12 50-	\$50 01

To George S. Holt,

Dr.

To 16 days services as second selectman,	\$24 00	
" " " board,	8 00-	\$32 00

To Chas. E. Eaton,

Dr.

To 17 days services as third selectman,	\$25 50	
" " " board,	8 50-	\$34 00

REPORT OF THE SEXTON OF THE TOWN OF BEN-
NINGTON TO FEB. 25, 1880.

NAMES.	AGE.	DIED.	DISEASE.	PLACE OF INTERM'T
	y. m. d.			
Emerson Favor,	79 1 17	Apr. 8.	Paralysis.	Bennington
Mrs. Tilda J. Quimby,	32	June 11.	Typhoid Pnumonia.	"
Samuel D. Baldwin,	45 7	June 18.	Bright's Disease of the kidneys	"
Miss Alvira Robinson,	71	June 25.		Greenfield..
Charles S. Wilson,	44	July 19.	Consumpt'n	Bennington
Mrs. Lucy A. Wilson,	44	Oct. 16.	Cancerous tumor.	"
Mrs. Martha Baldwin,	56 1 25	Feb. 24.	Heart disease.	Manchester

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. FLAGG, Sexton.

